連載新
カラー40P
2013年最高の感動作スタート！
その星を僕たちは恋と呼ぶことにする。
Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star
When you play the piano, you shine brighter than any other star. I fell in love with you the first time you played. Will God grant my wish...?
「さよなら、ヒーロー。」
小泉蓮
泣ける胸キュン作家No.1!!

# Sono Hoshi o Bokutachi wa Koi to Yobu koto ni suru

by Koizumi Ren

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The star that shines where the ends of his fingers meet the keys
was shining more brightly than any other star
That smile was brighter.
It was a lovely star that was shining for him and I.

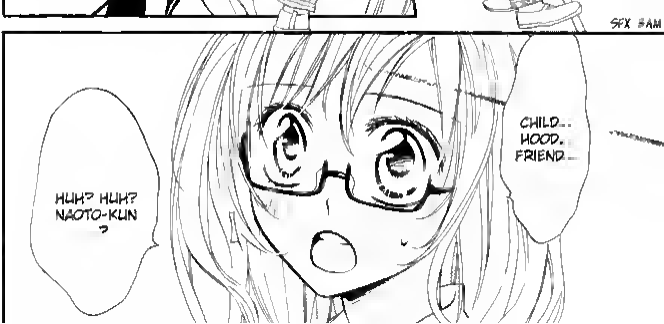
But now, I can't see the stars very well anymore.
Before my world gets swallowed up by darkness.

I just want
to see one
last thing.

Finally, today..
October 21st
Naoto is
coming back to Japan!!
HE
HE
HE
QUICKLY BACKS AWAY
MIO, THAT'S UNPLEASANT
WHY ARE YOU DOING THAT?
4
KYA, ♥ IT'S A SECRET ♥
HUH?
2-C
Naoto had to
move overseas, because his father was relocated for work.
We used to live next door to each other

SFX CLATTER
WAIT, ARE YOU GOING HOME ALREADY?!
SORRY!
OKAY! SEE YOU TOMORROW! LET'S GO HOME!!
ding dong dang dong
He's my first love.
Bye Bye
Maybe God
I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW
SFX BUMP
AH!
I'M SORRY!
has granted my wish..
HEY
I'll hurry and go home!
I want to see him now!
SFX GRAB

HEY, YOU!
MIO, ARE YOU
U-WAH !?
ARE YOU GOING TO IGNORE YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND? HUH?
SFX: BAM


CHILD.. HOOD. FRIEND..
HUH? HUH? NAOTO-KUN ?

YEP!
IT'S BEEN 7 YEARS, MIO
I'M SAD THAT YOU FORGOT YOUR CHILD-HOOD FRIEND'S FACE
ドキッ
SFX: BA-THUMP

NAOTO-KUN...! WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
I CAME TO REGISTER AS A TRANS-FER STUDENT. I'M IN THE SAME CLASS AS OF TO-MORROW.
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ME
HUH?
Why!?!
GIVE ME A TOUR.

Naoto is a genius pianist. He is famous in national competitions.
I thought that he was going to go to a school where he could study piano...
THE MEN'S BATH-ROOM IS OVER THERE!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU
HUH?
A TRANS-FER STU-DENT?
HE'S COOL♥
...He's so cool now. That's why I didn't recognize him before..
Naoto, who plays piano,
is way cooler now..!
SEX BA-THUMP
SEX BA-THUMP 2X

I want to hear him play!
NAOTO-KUN!
YEAH?
PIANO
HUH?!
SFX: THUD
SFX: GR
SFX: BA-THUMP
Crap.. I can't see anything because it's getting dark... He probably thinks I'm weird..
YOU'RE SO CLUMSY, MIO
I... I NEED TO GET MY EYES RECHECKED MY GLASSES ARE THE WRONG PRESCRIPTION
AAH
I'VE THOUGHT THIS EVER SINCE WE MET.
YOU DON'T LOOK GOOD WITH GLASSES

SFX BA-THUMP
EH?!
YOU'RE BEING CLUMSY... I'LL TAKE YOU HOME.
YOU SHOULD SWITCH TO CONTACT LENSES
ba-thump
ba-thump
AFTER ALL, I LIVE NEXT DOOR TO YOU
Wow..!
ba-thump
This is different than before.. A big hand..

you playing the piano, because you're who I really like.
I WANT TO HEAR
NAOTO-KUN PLAY THE PIANO !
What kind of piano playing... is Naoto doing with this hand?
SFX: BA-THUMP
—MIO?
The last thing I want to see is

I'M SORRY
HUH?
I STOPPED PLAYING THE PIANO.
HUH?
WHY...
I DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT ANYMORE...
I DIDN'T WANT TO PLAY ANYMORE...
ba-thump

I DON'T EVEN WANT TO LOOK AT A PIANO.
SFX: BA-THUMP

WE BOTH REALLY LOOKED LIKE ANGELS
Naoto..?
pick up
He stopped playing the piano that he really loved..
I THOUGHT.. THAT GOD CALLED NAOTO-KUN BACK FOR ME..
BUT, AS I THOUGHT..

THERE IS NO GOD.
That was the summer of my unforgettable 2nd year in middle school.
SO, YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING WHEN THINGS GET DARK
AND YOU CAN'T SEE THE STARS AT NIGHT
ACCORDING TO THE EXAMINATION AND WHAT YOUR EYES ARE LIKE NOW
I THINK OUR DIAGNOSIS FROM BEFORE WAS CORRECT.
THIS ILLNESS WILL
PROGRESS UNTIL YOU'RE COMPLETELY BLIND.
It was such a sudden announcement.

My head went completely blank.
My eyes could only see darkness.
I couldn't see the stars anymore.
But
you who I could see from behind, and the melody of the piano
were shining
So, I thought that I should do my best.

SFX SITS UP SUDDENLY
がばっ!!!
THAT'S NOT GOOD!!!
"I didn't want to do it anymore."
"I don't even want to look at a piano."
SFX BAM
There's no way that you don't even want to look at it now
DON'T SAY SUCH NONSENSE!
SFX OPEN
What saved me from the darkness was...

If you don't want to play the piano anymore
It was your piano.
Open
18
!?
SHOCKED
I will force you to play it!!!

My only piano teacher was Naoto
UGH

It's my most precious memory.
and the only thing he taught me was this little star song.

Please.
Please remember it.
that time when you shone brighter than anything else.
UGH
SFX OPEN
He closed the window and curtains!!!
CLOSE
datter
SFX RATTLE
SFX SURPRISED

I am never going to lose!!
Ah...
LEAVE ME ALONE!
WHO! ARE YOU TROUBLING OUR NEIGHBORS?
The keys.. look blurry...
What's important is heart!
I'm not going to care about mistakes I might make!

I have to connect with Naoto.
2-C
SFX: SAM
MIO, YOU...
ARE YOU TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT WITH ME?
SFX: GRAB
がしっ
Noo! ★
PLAYING THE PIANO IS REALLY FUN ♥ I'LL PLAY IT LATE INTO THE NIGHT!
YOU ARE TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT WITH ME, AREN'T YOU?
YOU MISS PLAYING THE PIANO NOW, DON'T YOU?
right?
THAT'LL NEVER HAPPEN, YOU IDIOT !!

shocked
WHAT WAS WITH THAT SHITTY PIANO PLAYING?!
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU'VE PRACTICED?!
CAN YOU EVEN SEE THE KEYS?!
IT'S BECAUSE I HAVEN'T GOTTEN MY NEW GLASSES YET!
Uuh...
STOP MAKING LAME EXCUSES
YOU'RE TOO NOISY FOR SOMEONE WHO'S JUST TRANSFERRED HERE
WE WENT TO THE SAME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YOU'RE STILL AS ANNOYING!
clatter
YOU ARE MAKING A REALLY STUPID MISTAKES
MY EAR IS GROWING CALLOUSES*, IDIOT!

*A JAPANESE EXPRESSION [ MIMI NI TAKO GA DEKIRU ] MEANING YOU'RE TIRED OF HEARING THE SAME COMMENTS OR COMPLAINTS OVER AND OVER

REALLY... IT'S ANNOYING...
LET'S GO TO THE GLASSES SHOP ON THE WAY HOME
HEY, PRODIGY! DID YOU RETURN HOME WITH ANY GLORY?
SFX: KYAHAHA!
Haha
YOU WERE A PRODIGY BEFORE, BUT NOW YOU'RE JUST A NORMAL GUY!
IT'S SAD !!
NORMAL PEOPLE SHOULD ACT LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE!
That's right!
OR WERE YOUR PIANO SKILLS THAT BAD THAT YOU RAN BACK TO JAPAN WITH YOUR TAIL BETWEEN YOUR LEGS?
Don't tell me that's true.
HEY, ARE YOU GOING TO IGNORE US?
AH, WERE WE RIGHT?!
SFX: GRAB
MIO, WHERE IS THE GLASSES SHOP?
ARE YOU IGNORING ME, YOU BASTARD ?!
YOU...
STOP
WAH!

YOU'RE JUST A LOSER, YOU BASTARD !!!
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TALK!!
GYAA !?
SFX KICK
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU USED TO PLAY PIANO, TOO.
I REMEMBER THAT YOU NEVER ONCE WON AGAINST NAOTO-KUN IN COMPETITIONS

ARE YOU GOING TO HIT A WOMAN?
cough
grab
SFX HIII!
SFX KYAA!
WHY, YOU...
HEY, YOU PIECE OF TRASH.
I'LL TAKE YOU ON.
WHAT ...?!

Ah.
NO!

THEY'RE NOT HANDS THAT SHOULD HIT OTHER PEOPLE ..!!
NAOTO-KUN'S HANDS ARE MEANT TO PLAY PIANO
THEY'RE MAGICAL HANDS...!
chatter
chatter
POINT ME TO WHERE THE PIANO IS.
... HUH?
hate
MIO?
NO ..!
HUH?
EH..
WHAT IF YOU GET HURT ...?!
clang

I WILL MAKE YOU HEAR
Eeh!?!
MY PIANO PLAYING.
crowding together
30
ESPECIALLY THOSE PIECES OF TRASH. YOU TWO BETTER LISTEN WELL.

I JUST FEEL LIKE DOING IT
I'm not pushing myself
NA-NAOTO-KUN!
YOU... DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO PLAY IN A PLACE WHERE THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE!
chatter
chatter
crowd gathering
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S NOT GOING TO BE A BIG DEAL
YEAH
37
ba-thump
YOU TOO, MIO.
ba-thump
OPEN YOUR EARS AND LISTEN WELL
Finally..
ba-thump

I can finally hear Naoto's piano playing.
ba-thump
ba-thump

Naoto's playing

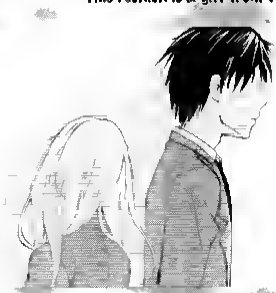
Everybody was lost in it.
The overwhelming technique that flowed from his hands like a storm...
But...

Tiring
Waah!
Kyaa!
whistle
36
KYAAA!♥ HE'S SO COOL!!
WOW. HE REALLY PLAYS VERY NICELY
ba-thump
This isn't Naoto's sound.
It's different...!

Anger? Sadness?
I could feel Naoto screaming through his playing
It was a sound that used to shine so bright.
What really happened...?
WHY IS YOUR EXPRESSION SO DARK?
AH THAT'S
ba-thump
Hey... Naoto-kun.
tap
tap
What happened while you were overseas...?
ba-thump
37

I don't know why Naoto's sound changed,
but
I do know one thing.
I'M DIFFERENT THAN I WAS A LONG TIME AGO.
DON'T EXPECT THINGS FROM ME ANYMORE

This reunion is a gift from God.



Before I completely lose my sight,

I am going to bring back that shining feeling

from Naoto's piano playing!